

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAR ES 01149 111254Z

50

ACTION AID-20

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 AGR-20

EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 SWF-02 PC-10 INT-08 FDRE-00

DRC-01 /131 W

----- 044235

R 111102Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5145

INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DAR ES SALAAM 1149

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ETRN, XW

SUBJECG: DROUGHT IN NORTHERN TANZANIA ENDS

REF: DAR ES SALAAM 0777

1. STARTING MARCH 31, NORTHERN AND EASTERN TANZANIA (INCLUDING AREAS AS FAR WEST AS LAKE VICTORIA AND AS FAR SOUTH AS TAN-ZAM ROAD), SUSTAINED LONG DAILY RAINS WHICH CONTINUED THROUGH APRIL 9. RAINFALL RECORDED AT 10-12 INCHES IN MANY PLACES AND AS HIGH AS 20 INCHES IN FEW PLACES. BEGINNING APRIL 9 THERE HAVE BEEN BENEFICIAL LIGHT SHOWERS AT NIGHT. GENERAL REACTION OF FARMING AND HERDING COMMUNITY IS THAT RAINS, WHILE OFTEN TORRENTIAL IN CHARACTER, CAN BE VIEWED AS REAL REPLENISHMENT RAINS WHICH BODE WELL FOR PRESENT CROP SEASON.

2. COMMENT: LONG AWAITED RAINS HAVE COME NEAR END OF NORMAL PRECIPITATION CYCLE. THEY ALONE WILL NOT ERASE HARDSHIPS AND DIFFICULTIES DROUGHT HAS CAUSED DURING RECENT MONTHS. THE
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PAGE 02 DAR ES 01149 111254Z

MASAI AND MINORITY OF FARMERS, WHO HAVE ACCESS TO IRRIGATIONS

SYSTEMS, CAN RECOVER MOST QUICKLY. MANY MARGINAL OR SUBSISTANCE-
LEVEL DIRT FARMERS, HOWEVER, WHO PLANT IN ANTICIPATION OF
REGULAR CYCLE PATTERNS HAVE BEEN CAUGHT OUT BY LATE RAINS AND,
CONSEQUENTLY, HAVE LOST GOOD SHARE OF THIS YEAR'S CROP. IN
SOME AREAS A CROP FAILURE THIS SEASON, FOLLOWING TWO OR THREE
POOR CROP YEARS IN SUCCESSION, MAY PLACE THEM IN DIFFICULT
STRAITS. WE WILL CONTINUE TO GATHER REPORTS ON THIS SITUATION
AND REPORT BY AIRGRAM WHEN PICTURE BECOMES CLEARER AFTER LONG
RAINS HAVE FINISHED.
CARTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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